river of the Amur; Blagoveshchensk with the important Lenin Dockyard at the mouth of the Zeya; and Khabarovsk at the beginning of the lower course of the Amur. 396

In the machine industry the construction of transportation machinery in especially large plant installations is in the foreground. The railroad workshops of Ulan-Ude, Chita, Khabarovsk, and Ruzhina near Vladivostok serve to supply and maintain the railroads; all of these workshops are large installations. The most important of these is the plant for the construction of locomotives and railroad cars in Ulan-Ude. It constitutes an entire section of the city, which, according to a Soviet report, has three times as many inhabitants as all of Ulan-Ude (Verkhne Udinsk) before World War I. Since at that time the city had approximately 15,000 inhabitants, approximately 45,000 persons must be connected with this plant in some fashion. This also corresponds to the importance of the plant which is competent to supply the railroads not only of the Far East but also of all east Siberia. According to the plant's projected capacity, it is supposed to be in a position to deliver 2,000 passenger cars and up to 12,000 freight cars a year in addition to an undetermined number of locomotives. The other large railroad workshops mentioned above are in a position to repair locomotives and to overhaul them completely and also to a limited extent to build railroad cars. The base for motor vehicle production lies in Khabarovsk, which in the "Kaganovich Plant" has the largest installation of this type in the Far East. Airplane factories exist in Khabarovsk and Vladivostok. In contrast to the industry for transport machinery, the construction of agricultural machinery is distributed among a large number of places. Only Khabarovsk has a large plant. 397 398 399 407

In the building materials industry, with progressive industrialization, the need for modern building materials grew so much that a bottleneck has arisen here. Numerous small brick works and lime kilns must first be created, which are scattered over the vast areas and which in each case satisfy the local needs. A mechanized large brick-works was brought to life in the city itself for the building up of Komsomol'sk. The need for cement which is especially great had to be covered for the most part by other regions in the Soviet Union /179/ up to the beginning of World War II. 339

Up to 1937 there were in the Far East only two cement factories, which were in Spassk north of Vladivostok. Production here in the same year was 164,000 tons. By 1942 this production had already reached 525,000 tons. In this output the production of the cement

361 this city almost 25 percent of the total population of the Buryat-Mongol
[391] ASSR have been brought together. Ulan-Ude has the largest locomotive and railroad car factory in eastern Siberia; this factory supplies the whole
[253] Far East. Supported by the Buryat's important breeding of livestock, the largest meat factory in Siberia, which produces canned meats, frozen meats, and other preserved meat goods has come into existence. The meat plant is in a position to process 400 cattle, 1,000 sheep, and 250 pigs a day. In 1940, 25 million cans of meat were sent out. Two large
[328] glass factories make Ulan-Ude also the supply center for crockery and glass goods for the entire Soviet Far East. Lying on a river and a rail-
[376] road, Ulan-Ude is favorably located in terms of transportation. At the same time Ulan-Ude is also the center of the Selenga water transportation, for which river steamers and barks are built in the city's own dockyard. Steamers not only carry traffic downstream but also carry it up the tributaries, for example on the Chikoy, which runs through agricultural regions. Of no less great importance is the floating of lumber, since
[313] the tributaries of the Selenga come from areas rich in forests. Here again the lumber streams into Ulan-Ude, where it is processed in large sawmills. Iliynsk, which lies on the Selenga 57 kilometers below the capital, is also an important wood-processing center.

133 Ulan-Ude lies at the point where the Selenga Valley unites with the valley of the Uda. As a contiguous graben depression, the two form a morphological-tectonic unit, and in their natural state, they were once a steppe. /215/ /Sketch Map of the Buryat-Mongol ASSR:/ 3/216/ These two valleys today are the most heavily populated and economically the most important regions in the Buryat-Mongol ASSR.

Above Ulan-Ude the valley of the Selenga soon expands into a hilly to gently rolling, pure steppe landscape, which continues over
487 the border into Mongolia. It is traversed by the old caravan road, which connects Ulan-Ude with the capital of the Mongolian People's Republic, Ulan-Bator, the former Urga. At the border crossing Kyakhta (approximately 10,000 inhabitants) lies opposite the Mongolian Atlan Bulak
491 (Chinese: Maimachen). This overland route, expanded into an auto-
496 mobile highway in the period of the Soviet Union, has since 1938 been supplemented by a railroad line, which branches from the main line at Ulan-Ude but does not follow the old road. Rather it goes around Gusinoye Lake in a western arc and reaches the border at Naushki, approximately 20 kilometers west of Kyakhta. A lengthening of this
491 railroad to Urga was carried out in 1949. A land route usable throughout the year by trucks branches off from Novo Selenginsk toward the west into the river area of the upper Dzhida.